

Four Arrested by FBI As Nazi Spies; Woman Named Head of Ring

Three Seized in Detroit,
One in New York, in
First Wartime Cases

By the Associated Press.

Stew 8-24-43
The Justice Department announced today the arrests on espionage charges of four persons, one an attractive 34-year-old woman who was named as leader of an alleged spy ring furnishing war information to Germany.

The four, first to be arrested under the Wartime Espionage Act, which provides a maximum penalty of death, were identified by the Federal Bureau of Investigation as Grace Buchanan-Dineen, described as an "attractive, well-educated descendant of French nobility"; Bertrand Steuart Hoffman, 27; Theresa Behrens, 44, and Dr. Fred Williams Thomas, 44, a surgeon, all of Detroit.

The two women stood mute on arraignment before a United States commissioner in Detroit and were held in \$50,000 bond each. Dr. Thomas pleaded not guilty and also was held in \$50,000 bond. Trial dates were set for Theresa Behrens on September 14, Dr. Thomas September 16 and Grace Buchanan-Dineen on September 17.

Three Seized in Detroit.

Hoffman's arrest in New York was reported shortly after J. Edgar Hoover, FBI director, announced that the other three were in custody in Detroit on espionage charges.

Hoffman was arraigned before United States Commissioner Edward E. Fay in Brooklyn and held in \$50,000 bail to await removal proceedings to return him to Detroit.

Mr. Hoover said Hoffman was recently assigned a ship in New York after joining the merchant marine and had furnished information on naval bases and convoys and "stated that he joined the merchant marine with the hope he could desert in a foreign port and escape to Germany." * * *

Mr. Hoover also announced the ar-
(See ESPIONAGE, Page A-5.)



GRACE BUCHANAN-DINEEN.



THERESA BEHRENS.

These two women were pictured in Detroit, where they were held on \$50,000 bond each on Federal charges of wartime espionage.

—A. P. Wirephotos.

Espionage

(Continued From First Page.)

rest on presidential warrants of two German aliens in Detroit. Both are women and they will be given a hearing before the alien enemy hearing board in Detroit.

List of Charges.

The espionage complaints charge that:

Theresa Behrens obtained information as to the location of the manufacturing plants of the Pullman-Standard Car Manufacturing Co., Chicago, the number of employes engaged by the company in manufacturing war material, the kind of war material then being manufactured by the company and the transportation of war materials.

Dr. Thomas obtained information as to the number and location of certain plants of the Western Electric Co. in Ohio manufacturing war materials.

Grace Buchanan-Dineen obtained information as to the production capacity of the Ford Motor Co. in manufacturing war material, the safety of construction of such plant against sabotage, the safety of construction of the plants against airplane attack and bombing and the operation plans of the United States by which military airplanes departed from this country for battle fronts.

Disclosing that the arrests cli-

maxed an investigation begun in 1939, Mr. Hoover said the activities of the group since this country's entry into the war centered about Grace Buchanan-Dineen, who, though a native of Canada, had been carefully trained by Germans in espionage work."

Mr. Hoover said she entered the United States on October 27, 1941, arriving in New York by Atlantic Clipper. She first came to the attention of the FBI, he added, as a mysterious "Miss Smith of Detroit" in November, 1941.

Subsequently, Mr. Hoover said, she "co-operated fully with the FBI in receiving information desired by the German espionage service when it became apparent to her that she could not carry out the instructions of her Nazi employers."

Mr. Hoover said she had operated under the surveillance of the FBI, and all information reported to her and forwarded to her Nazi espionage superiors abroad had cleared through the FBI, and Army and Navy intelligence services.

Mr. Hoover said Miss Buchanan-Dineen was recruited for the German espionage service in Budapest in 1941 and was given addresses and telephone numbers of approximately 200 persons in the United States.

The names, the FBI chief added, were supposed to give her an entree into circles where she might obtain information of importance to the Nazi espionage service.

The names which Miss Buchanan-Dineen possessed, Mr. Hoover added, were those of persons living in Atlantic City, N. J.; Austin and Bay City, Tex.; Baltimore, Boston, Beloit, Wis.; Cleveland, Chicago, Berkley, Calif.; Detroit, Dayton, Ohio; Denver, Flushing, Long Island; Greenwich, Conn.; Kingston, N. Y.; Kansas City, Mo.; Louisville, Ky.; Meadsville, Pa.; New York, Passaic, N. J.; Poughkeepsie, N. Y.; San Francisco, Schenectady, N. Y.; Toledo and Washington.